

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS

Redwood Parks Association Sponsors First Annual *Run in the Redwoods*

Dust off your running/walking shoes and join us for the first ever *Run in the Redwoods* half marathon and 5k on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014, at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m.; both runs begin at 9 a.m. The runs are limited to the first 200 participants. Registration deadline is August 30. Proceeds from the *Run in the Redwoods* will be used for visitor services and to help improve the Revelation Trail for people with sight impairment.

Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway will be closed to all vehicle traffic on race-day, Sept. 13, to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of California State Parks, creating a wonderful opportunity for runners, walkers and cyclists. (You do not have to participate in the race to take advantage of the vehicle-free road.) The Parkway winds through the heart of old-

growth redwoods in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park unit of Redwood National & State Parks and is located off Highway 101 six miles north of Orick, Calif., or four miles south of Klamath, Calif.

The parkway is ten miles long and can only be accessed from the south gate on this date only. Visitors should park vehicles south of the closure and park only in designated spaces parallel to the roadway and adjacent to Elk Prairie in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. Please do not block the gate or park in lots reserved for visitor center or back country use.

The parkway closure to vehicle traffic offers the public a chance to safely explore the beauty of the redwoods on foot or bike without worry of competing traffic. Redwood National and State Parks staff especially hope that families will take advantage of the closure and bring their children out for a walk or bike ride. Walking or biking with children through the wonders of the ancient coast redwood forest not only helps young people get physical exercise and enjoy quality time with family and friends, but also helps foster a better understanding and appreciation of the environment in which they live and a burgeoning enthusiasm for exploration.

For more information about *Run in the Redwoods*, contact Redwood Parks Association at 707-464-9150. For maps and suggestions for exploring your parks, stop by any of our many visitor centers or call 707-465-7335 Monday through Friday or visit www.nps.gov/redw.



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